

## THE MAN WHO CAN TALK TO GORILLAS.

Professor Richard L. Garner  
Arrives from the Heart  
of Africa.

Learned Amazing Things About  
Chimpanzees, Without Liv-  
ing in a Cage.

They Make Tom-Toms and Hold  
Periodic Festivals, in Which They  
Scream in Chorus.

JOHANNA VISITED BY THE SCIENTIST.

Will Ask the Park Authorities To day for  
a Private Meeting with Her, and  
Will Try to Converse in the  
Chimpanzee Language.

Professor Richard L. Garner, disembarked from the steamship Etruria yesterday, after having spent seven months in Central and Western Africa. He has brought the results of his fresh observations of the characteristics of the gorilla and chimpanzee. He said last night:

"The object of my visit to Africa on this occasion was almost entirely to confirm my beliefs and to dispute those of Dr. Forbes, of Liverpool, and Professor Lydecker, of the British Museum, as to certain physical characteristics of the two species of the ape family of which I have made an especial study, namely the chimpanzee and the gorilla. My efforts on this occasion were, however, confined almost exclusively to the chimpanzee.

"Persons who have been at all interested in my studies are aware that there have been grave discrepancies in the opinions which I had formed as a result of my life in Africa and the opinions of those eminent authorities who are the authors of text books on the subject of the ape family. I have come back absolutely and irrevocably convinced that I was right, and that they are wrong. I am not at liberty at this time, owing to certain restrictions placed upon me by my publishers, to tell you exactly, or rather, specifically, what these particular studies were; but I have no doubt at all that they will be of deep interest to naturalists.

"During my absence I travelled along the coast from Liberia south, and penetrated the interior for a good many miles, and although I was almost constantly in what is known as the chimpanzee region, I did not take up my residence among them, as was the case in my previous visit to Africa. I captured a number of gorillas and chimpanzees, and brought more, and, as a result, was able to study the habits of the animals with considerable care and formed my opinion as to their physical characteristics. I dissected the bodies of seven chimpanzees.

CHIMPANZEE, HIGHER THAN THE APE.  
"I am fully convinced of one thing, and that is that the chimpanzee possesses a higher order of intellectual development than the gorilla, and I believe that scientists will generally come to this conclusion within the next few years, or as soon as they have made careful observation of the two species.

"Now," continued the Professor, "there is one thing which I wish to state in unmistakable language, because I fear that I have been misunderstood by many. I have heard it said that Professor Garner believes the chimpanzee to be naturally as intelligent as man, if once he were only understood by man. Now, that is absurd. I never have, and I am certain that I never will, claim any such thing. The chimpanzee, in point of intelligence, is as far below the lowest savage as the lowest savage is below the intelligent and highly civilized man.

"I do claim, however, that the chimpanzee is as far above the dog and the horse in intelligence, even as he is now, and without the centuries of domestication which have been recorded in the two above mentioned favored animals, as the savage is above the chimpanzee. In fact, I would grade them thus: Intelligent man, savage, chimpanzee and dog. I put the horse on the same plane of intelligence as the dog.

SCREAM OF THE GORILLA.  
"Another thing which may be of interest is my increased conviction that the so-called scream of the gorilla is a mere phantom of man's brain, and that, as a matter of fact, the gorilla makes no cry at all. I studied this question with great care, and while I found numerous natives, traders, missionaries and other residents of Africa, who firmly believe that it is the gorilla which emits this eerie cry of the forest, yet all my investigations point to what I believe to be the fact that it is the chimpanzee which utters this awful cry.

"I have had for the past seven months numerous gorillas under my observation. Not one of them have I heard to utter any cries at all, with the exception of three or four noises, moderate in tone volume, and which I believe to be words. On the contrary, I have induced certainly not less than half a dozen chimpanzees to make this shrill cry. It is simple enough to induce them to do so. I simply start the cry myself, and they take it up. It is not a cry of danger, nor can I call it a cry of joy. It is more nearly what I might describe as a shout of welcome.

"When they first cry I have never been able to observe the slightest evidence of excitability in the animal, but when they repeat it once or twice they seem to become excited and to possess a desire to strike something. None of the animals with whom I have experimented showed any desire to harm me while under the influence of this excitement, nor have they evinced any desire to injure anything. They simply appeared to wish to strike something in order to manifest their pleasure, if such is the case, by some unusual physical exertion.

TALKED WITH GORILLAS.  
"As regards the language of the gorilla, I have no reason to change my previously expressed views, but have, on the contrary, more reasons to confirm those views. Not only was I able on the occasion of my life in the cage among the chimpanzees of Central Africa to converse with my devoted friends, Moses, Aaron and Ellsabar, but I became on speaking terms with several other chimpanzees this last time.

"The most striking example of this I found not in the wilds of Africa, but rather in the big manufacturing city of

Manchester, England. There, in the Bellevue Gardens, I became on terms of intimacy with the chimpanzee of an exceptionally high order of intelligence. He was named Consul II, his predecessor of the gardens having been Consul, an animal of a lower grade of intelligence not possessed by his successor.

"I spent several days in studying Consul II, and found that he took the most violent fancy to me when I spoke a few words of what I understood to be the chimpanzee language. He would follow me about the grounds all day long, and would reply to the language I addressed to him. This animal, since his arrival at Manchester has, at my suggestion, been allowed to roam at will about the gardens. The result is that he is as strong and vigorous as a young ox, whereas the original Consul, who was kept locked up in a cage, died after a brief illness in London, England, of pulmonary disease.

DRANK BEER AND SMOKED.  
"The living one was given anything to eat that man eats—meats of all kinds, pastry and fruits, and nuts he devours greedily, disposes of nearly half a pall of beer during his meals and never finishes his dinner without smoking a cigarette. This may not denote even ordinary chimpanzee intelligence, but I may add that he is equally fond of cigar stumps which he picks up about the gardens and also takes great delight in his pipe of tobacco.

"He is more intelligent than any chimpanzee I have ever seen, but I am sure that had my pets, Moses, Aaron and Ellsabar, lived, they would also have acquired as much intelligence and culture as that now enjoyed by Consul II.

"My latest studies have assured me of two things—that the chimpanzee is not imitative like the monkey, and that he possesses an erudite sense of music. To consider the first proposition, the monkey will try to do pretty much everything that he sees done by man. A chimpanzee will not. He will only do what he sees bears practical results.

"Now, let me illustrate. Take a tumbler, place it on the table, so that the base is upward, then take a pitcher and pour water over the tumbler. Then take the tumbler and wipe it with a cloth, and place it upon the table. The chimpanzee will regard this operation with great interest, but nothing will induce him to imitate you in this act, because there is no practical result obtained. Then, however, take the tumbler, place the base downward in its proper position, pour water into the tumbler from the pitcher, and drink the water from the tumbler, and the chimpanzee will invariably spring to imitate this action.

TRIED IT A DOZEN TIMES.  
"They do this because they seem to know that there was something practical obtained. I have tried this experiment with no less than a dozen chimpanzees, and never once have I known it to fail. I could illustrate this lack of imitation in a score of instances, but the one I have cited will suffice.

"Now, as to music. Frequently, during my first visit to Africa, and again during this visit just completed, I have heard in the forests the sounds of a band of chimpanzees celebrating what I believe to be a sort of tribal carnival of fete. These bands or tribes of chimpanzees seem to gather at certain periods for the purposes of a jubilee.

"The male members of the tribe make a sort of drum, or as a native might call it, a tam-tam. They do this by kneading clay with their hands, making a solid surface of about two feet in width, and this substance they place over pear moss or some putrid vegetation. Then, during the celebration three and sometimes six male chimpanzees will sit about on the ground, and beat upon these drums with their knuckles.

"This beating is accomplished with rhythmic regularity, indicating a certain sense, I should say, of the elements of



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